

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NATO 02806 01 OF 02 061712Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
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P 061651Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3481

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 02806

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL DECISIONS ON US INITIATIVES

REF: USNATO 2709 (DTG 050825Z MAY 77)

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE (A) PROPOSES SPECIFIC LANGUAGE FOR MINISTERIAL ENDORSEMENT OF US DEFENSE INITIATIVES AT THE DPC AND (B) SUGGESTS A SCENARIO FOR ACHIEVING MINISTERIAL APPROVAL OF THIS LANGUAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN PREPARATION FOR THE DPC MINISTERIAL, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO ADVISE ALLIES BEFOREHAND OF OUR PREFERRED OUTCOME IN THE FORM OF SPECIFIC DECISION LANGUAGE FOR MINISTERIAL ENDORSEMENT OF US LONG- AND SHORT-TERM DEFENSE INITIATIVES (REFTEL). THIS LANGUAGE COULD RESULT EITHER FROM DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE RESTRICTED SESSION OR FROM PLENARY SESSION, OR BOTH.

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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 02806 01 OF 02 061712Z

2. MINISTERIAL ENDORSEMENT. WE SUGGEST THAT THE SPECIFIC MINISTERIAL DECISIONS AT THE DPC SHOULD BE CAST AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

IN PURSUIT OF THE MANDATE GIVEN THEM BY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, MINISTERS

- (1) AGREED UPON THE NEED FOR A LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM TO ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977 AND TO ADAPT THE DETERRENT AND DEFENSE POSTURE OF THE ALLIANCE TO THE NEEDS OF THE 1980S.

- (2) INVITED THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION TO PREPARE SUCH A LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM FOR THEIR APPROVAL AT THE SPRING 1978 MINISTERIAL MEETING:

- (A) THIS LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM SHOULD CONSIST OF A SERIES OF ABOUT EIGHT TO TEN INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS PREPARED BY THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES. EACH INDIVIDUAL PROGRAM SHOULD:

- (I) ADDRESS A SERIOUS DEFICIENCY IDENTIFIED IN THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE;

- (II) SET FORTH NATIONAL AND COLLECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS IN AS PROGRAMMATIC TERMS AS FEASIBLE; AND

- (III) ESTABLISH TIME-PHASING FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT.

- (B) THE NEED FOR STRENGTHENED NATO PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTING MACHINERY TO HELP DESIGN PROGRAMS AND INSURE THEIR FOLLOW-THROUGH SHOULD BE ASSESSED IN THE COURSE OF DEVELOPING THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM.

- (C) A PROGRESS REPORT SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR MINISTERIAL REVIEW AT THE DECEMBER 1977 MEETING.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 02806 01 OF 02 061712Z

- (3) AGREED, IN ORDER TO ADDRESS ON AN URGENT BASIS CERTAIN CRITICAL DEFICIENCIES ALREADY IDENTIFIED BY THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES, UPON THE NEED SELECTIVELY TO IMPROVE THE ALLIANCE'S POSTURE FOR DEFENSE AGAINST ARMOR, IN HOLDINGS OF CERTAIN WAR RESERVE MUNITIONS STOCKS AND IN THE READINESS AND RAPID REINFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES OF ALLIED FORCES.

- (4) INVITED THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO FORWARD TO DPC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AS SOON AS FEASIBLE, BUT IN NO CASE LATER THAN 60 DAYS, THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERIM OBJECTIVES, BY NATION, CAPABLE OF BEING MET BY DECEMBER 1978:

- (A) FOR HOLDINGS OF ANTI-ARMOR WEAPONS SYSTEMS;

- (B) FOR HOLDINGS OF SELECTED WAR RESERVE MUNITIONS STOCKS;

- (C) FOR IMPROVEMENT OF CRITICAL DEFICIENCIES IN

THE READINESS OF NATO FORCES AND IN ALLIED CAPABILITIES
FOR RAPID REINFORCEMENT.

- (5) UNDERTOOK TO CONSIDER WAYS TO MEET THESE INTERIM OBJECTIVES, EITHER THROUGH ADDITIONS TO PLANNED FUNDING LEVELS, OR THROUGH REPROGRAMMING OR REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES, IN ORDER TO FULFILL THESE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES, AND TO REPORT THEIR INTENTIONS AT THE DECEMBER 1977 MEETING. END TEXT.

3. WE THINK IT BEST THAT THE ABOVE LANGUAGE, OR A

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PAGE 01 NATO 02806 02 OF 02 061712Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 NATO 02806

SUITABLE SUBSTITUTE, BE APPROVED BY MINISTERS AS A RESULT OF THEIR DISCUSSION IN THE RESTRICTED SESSION, ALTHOUGH IT COULD, IN ADDITION, WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS, BE REPEATED AS DECISION LANGUAGE RESULTING FROM THE PLENARY SESSION ITEM ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO GIVE DUE WEIGHT TO THE FOLLOWING ALLIED VIEWS WE HEARD EXPRESSED DURING AMBASSADOR KOMER'S RECENT VISIT TO EUROPE: (A) THE STRONG VIEW OF MOD LEBER THAT SHORT-TERM MEASURES SHOULD HAVE AS MUCH VISIBILITY (ALTHOUGH POSSIBLY ULTIMATELY LESS IMPACT) AS THOSE FOR THE LONG-TERM; (B) THE STRONG VIEW OF MG BRANDT, SECONDED BY DR. STUETZLE AND SEVERAL MILREPS, THAT DPC MINISTERIAL DECISION LANGUAGE SHOULD INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF THE

POSSIBLE NEED FOR TRADEOFFS, OR REPROGRAMMINGS, WITHIN NATIONAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS; AND (C) THE UK VIEW (STRONGLY STATED BY D/US QUINLAN) THAT SHORT-TERM INITIATIVES NEED TO BE AFFORDABLE.

4. WE SEE THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO AS BEST FOR STIMULATING
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 NATO 02806 02 OF 02 061712Z

MINISTERIAL DECISION LANGUAGE ALONG THE LINES OF THE TEXT IN PARA 2 ABOVE:

- A. MAY 9: WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF A FINAL TEXT.
- B. MAY 10: USNATO LIAISON WITH AVAILABLE IS SENIOR OFFICIALS OFFERING THIS TEXT AS A "DECISION OUTCOME" TO BE RECORDED FROM DPC RESTRICTED SESSION.
- C. MAY 11: POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF TEXT AS AN ANNEX TO THE LETTER WHICH, WE UNDERSTAND, SECRETARY BROWN MAY FORWARD TO ALL DPC MODS DESCRIBING US INITIATIVES FOR SUMMIT RESPONSE. ALTERNATIVELY, WE COULD FORWARD THE TEXT TO ALL NATO DELEGATIONS, AS US-DESIRED DECISION LANGUAGE, FOR FURTHER TRANSMISSION TO CAPITALS. A THIRD ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO PROVIDE LANGUAGE TO MINISTERS FOR APPROVAL AT OR FOLLOWING THE RESTRICTED SESSION. WE FAVOR TAKING SYG LUNS' ADVICE ON THESE ALTERNATIVES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE BY OOB MAY 10 ON TEXT PARA 2 AND SCENARIO PARA 4. BENNETT

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